

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1228 without my signature.

This bill would allow the Counties of Santa Clara and Yolo to conduct all-mail ballot elections under specified conditions.

Many Californians choose to vote-by-mail (VBM) and have the option of becoming permanent VBM voters if that is their preference. On the other hand, many prefer voting in person at their local polling place. Under the provisions of this bill, one polling place would be open per city. This limit would significantly increase the distance needed to travel to vote in-person. This burden would fall disproportionately on those who are less mobile, frequently the poor, disabled and elderly. I cannot support a measure that would make it more difficult for these individuals to exercise their right to vote.

For this reason I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger